

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of feeding energy to a gas terminal from a ship transporting liquefied gas while said liquefied gas is being transferred between a tank of the ship and a tank of the gas terminal, wherein a portion of the energy produced by the propulsion system of the ship is supplied to the gas terminal.

5 2. A method according to claim 1, wherein excess gas vapor in the gas ceiling of the tank of the ship and in the gas ceiling of the tank of the gas terminal is used for feeding the propulsion system of the ship.

10 3. A method according to claim 1, wherein the heat produced by the propulsion system of the ship is used for feeding heat to at least one heat exchanger disposed in the gas terminal.

15 4. A method according to claim 3, wherein a first heat exchanger is fed from a cooling circuit of the engine of the propulsion system of the ship.

20 5. A method according to claim 3, wherein a second heat exchanger is fed from a heat transfer circuit for taking heat from the exhaust gas of the engine of the propulsion system of the ship.

25 6. A method according to claim 4, wherein the heat given off by the first heat exchanger is used to re-gasify the liquefied gas after it has been unloaded from the ship's tank to the tank of the gas terminal.

30 7. A method according to claim 5, wherein the heat given off by the second heat exchanger is used to re-gasify the liquefied gas after it has been unloaded from the ship's tank to the tank of the gas terminal.

8. A method according to claim 6, wherein at least one positive energy recovery cycle is formed between a cold source associated with the re-gasification and a hot source associated with the first heat exchanger.

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9. A method according to claim 7, wherein at least one positive energy recovery cycle is formed between a cold source associated with the re-gasification and a hot source associated with the second heat exchanger.

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10. A method according to claim 6, wherein, after being re-gasified, the gas is heated by an additional heat exchanger.

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11. A method according to claim 1, wherein, while liquefied gas is being unloaded from the ship to the gas terminal, ballast tanks of the ship are filled with water supplied by the gas terminal.

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12. A method according to claim 11, wherein the water supplied by the gas terminal is sea water that has settled in a basin.

13. A method according to claim 11, wherein the water supplied by the gas terminal is fresh water stored in a basin.

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14. A method according to claim 11, wherein the water supplied by the gas terminal is used for feeding the heat exchanger with heat for the purpose of re-gasifying the liquefied gas.

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15. A method according to claim 12, wherein the heat produced by the propulsion system of the ship is used for heating the water in the basin so that the basin can be used to store heat.

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16. A method according to claim 15, wherein the heat stored in the water basin is used in the gas terminal to re-gasify the liquefied gas.

5 17. A method according to claim 1, wherein, while liquefied gas is being loaded from the gas terminal onto the ship, the water present in the ballast tanks of the ship is delivered to the gas terminal.

10 18. A method according to claim 17, wherein the water delivered to the gas terminal is used as a cooling fluid in a heat exchanger in the gas terminal.

15 19. A method according to claim 18, wherein the heat exchanger is used in a cooling circuit of a liquefaction installation.

20 20. A method according to claim 1, wherein a determined portion of the electrical power supplied by the propulsion system of the ship is used for feeding electricity to the gas terminal.

21. A method according to claim 1, wherein the liquefied gas is liquefied natural gas.

25 22. A method according to claim 1, wherein the liquefied gas is liquefied petroleum gas.

23. A ship including a tank for transporting liquefied gas, a 30 propulsion system, and means for transferring the liquefied gas between the tank of the ship and a tank of a gas terminal, the ship further comprising at least one interface for feeding a heat transfer fluid to supply heat to the gas terminal.

35 24. A ship according to claim 23, wherein a first heat transfer fluid feed interface is used to cause the cooling

fluid of the engine of the ship's propulsion system to circulate through a first heat exchanger disposed in the gas terminal.

5 25. A ship according to claim 23, wherein a second heat transfer fluid feed interface serves to cause the cooling fluid for cooling the exhaust gases from the engine of the ship's propulsion system to circulate through a second heat exchanger disposed in the gas terminal.

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26. A ship according to claim 23, further comprising a ballast water interface enabling water to be transferred between the ship and the gas terminal.

15 27. A ship according to claim 23, further comprising an interface for supplying electrical power that enables the gas terminal to be fed with electricity.

20 28. A gas terminal comprising at least one tank for storing liquefied gas and transfer means for transferring the liquefied gas between said tank and a tank of a ship for transporting liquefied gas, the terminal further comprising at least one interface for receiving a heat transfer fluid from the ship.

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29. A gas terminal according to claim 28, further comprising a water interface enabling water to be transferred between the ship and the gas terminal.

30 30. A gas terminal according to claim 28, further comprising an interface for receiving electrical power enabling the gas terminal to be fed with electricity from the ship.